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SEVENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

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HOUSE

NO. 31

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*House of Representatives, Jan. 26, 1911.*

*Tabled pending reference to committee by Mr. Hogan and  
ordered printed.*

*C. C. HARVEY, Clerk.*

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STATE OF MAINE

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RESOLVE to amend article 22 of the Constitution, relating to  
cities of forty thousand inhabitants or more to increase the  
municipal indebtedness to seven and one-half per centum.

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*Resolved:* That the following amendment to the Consti-  
2 tution of this State be proposed for the action of the legal  
3 voters of this State in the manner provided by the Consti-  
4 tution, to wit, Article twenty-two of said Constitution, lim-  
5 iting municipal indebtedness, is hereby amended by insert-  
6 ing after the word "town" in the first line thereof, the fol-  
7 lowing words 'having less than forty thousand inhabitants,  
8 according to the last census taken by the United States' and  
9 by inserting after the word "however" in the fourth line, the  
10 following words 'that cities with a population of forty thou-  
11 sand or more, according to the last census taken by the Unit-  
12 ed States, may create a debt or liability which single or in

the aggregate, with previous debt or liability, shall equal seven and one-half per centum of the last regular valuation of said city, that the debt of said cities of forty thousand inhabitants, or over, shall not be increased in any one year, to a greater amount than one quarter of one per cent of said cities assessed valuation, and provided further,' so that said article, as amended, shall read as follows:

'No city or town having less than forty thousand inhabitants, according to the last census taken by the United States, shall hereafter create any debt or liability, which single or in the aggregate, with previous debts or liabilities, shall exceed five per centum of the last regular valuation of said city or town; provided, however, that cities having a population of forty thousand or more, according to the last census taken by the United States, may create a debt or liability which single or in the aggregate, with previous debts or liabilities, shall equal seven and one-half percentum of the last regular valuation of said city, that the debt of said cities of forty thousand inhabitants or over, shall not be increased in any one year, to a greater amount than one quarter of one per cent of said cities assessed valuation, and provided further, that the adoption of this article shall not be construed as applying to any fund received in trust by said city or town, nor to any loan for the purpose of renewing existing loans, or for war or to temporary loans to be paid out of the money raised by taxes during the year in which they were made.

*Resolved:* That the aldermen of cities, the selectmen of  
40 towns and the assessors of the several plantations in this  
41 State, are hereby empowered and directed to notify the  
42 inhabitants of their respective cities, towns, or plantations,  
43 in the manner provided by law, to vote at a meeting to be  
44 held on the second Monday of September in the year one  
45 thousand nine hundred and eleven, upon an amendment  
46 proposed in the foregoing resolution, and the question shall  
47 be: 'Shall the constitution be amended as proposed by reso-  
48 lution of the legislature providing that towns having a pop-  
49 ulation of forty thousand inhabitants or more, according to  
50 the last census taken by the United States, be permitted to  
51 create a debt or liability which single or in the aggregate  
52 equals seven and one-half per centum of its last regular val-  
53 uation and that the increase in amount of debt be no greater  
54 than one quarter of one per centum of any cities assessed  
55 valuation in any one year, and the inhabitants of said city,  
56 town, or plantation shall vote by ballot on said question,  
57 those favoring the amendment voting 'Yes' and those oppos-  
58 ing voting 'No' upon their ballots, and the ballots shall be  
59 received, sorted, counted and declared in open ward, town  
60 and plantation meetings and lists of the votes so received  
61 shall be made and returned to the office of the Secretary of  
62 State in the same manner as votes for governor and members  
63 of the legislature, and the governor and council shall count  
64 the same and make return to the next legislature, and if it